M. J. "MIKE" FOSTER, JR. GOVERNOR

State of Louisiana DIVISION OF ADMINISTRATION

OFFICE OF STATE UNIFORM PAYROLL

MARK C. DRENNEN COMMISSIONER OF ADMINISTRATION

December 19, 2003

OFFICE OF STATE UNIFORM PAYROLL MEMORANDUM #2004-31

TO: All ISIS HR Paid Agencies

FROM: Jena W. Cary

Director

SUBJECT: Advance Earned Income Credit (EIC) Payments

Each year on December 31st, IRS Form W-5 (Earned Income Credit Advance Payment Certificate) expires. Eligible employees who want to receive advance payments of the earned income credit for the next year must complete a new Form W-5 and forward to their Employee Administration Office. According to the IRS, Form W-5 becomes effective the day it is received, and remains in effect until the end of the calendar year unless the employee revokes it or files another one. Year 2004 Forms W-5 can be obtained from the local Internal Revenue Service office or from the Internal Revenue Service's website at http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-fill/fw5.pdf.

For 2004, advance EIC payment tables cover three separate filing statuses: "Single or Head of Household," "Married without Spouse Filing Certificate," and "Married with Both Spouses Filing Certificate." These tables can be found in IRS Publication 15 (http://www.irs.gov/pub/irs-pdf/p15.pdf). The maximum advance payment a qualified Earned Income Credit recipient may receive is \$1,563 for 2004. To qualify for advance EIC payments, the individual must be expected to have an earned income or modified gross income (for federal income tax purposes) of less than \$30,338 (\$31,338 if married filing jointly) in 2004 and have one qualifying child.

Agencies should run report ZP65, Employee Tax Report, using the selection "Claiming EIC" to determine the affected employees in their agency. The agency should advise these employees that they need to complete a new Form W-5 if they qualify. All employees with an EIC indicator on IT0210 for calendar year 2003 should have a delimit date of 12/31/2003. Once the Employee Administration Office receives a new Form W-5 for 2004, a new IT0210 record must be created to include the EIC indicator with delimit date of 12/31/2004. Agencies <u>must</u> follow on-line help system task "Maintain Withholding Information" for instructions on changing IT0210.

Note: The end of the year is a good time to ask ALL employees in your agency to review their current filing status. Individual circumstances may have changed and employees may want to file an updated Form W-4 with your agency in order to accommodate a change in their need for withholdings.

Questions should be directed to a member of the OSUP Wage and Tax Administration Unit at (225):

Wendy Eggert 219-0191 Rachel Bryant 342-1651 Tiko Ary 342-1652 Chelette Jarrett 342-0714

JWC:WRE:kmb